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## 1-Methyl-3-nitro-5-methoxycarbonyl Pyrazole

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The nitroester **2** was prepared by the addition of meta-chloro-perbenzoic acid (m-CPBA) to **1** [1] according to the reported procedure [2,3].

To a stirred solution of 1 (524 mg, 3.67 mmol) in dry CHCl<sub>3</sub> (9 ml), heated at 70 °C, m-CPBA (3.18 g, 14.8 mmol, 4 eq) dissolved in dry CHCl<sub>3</sub> (23 ml), was added. After 1 h, TLC analysis (AcOEt,  $R_f 0.5$ ), showed the disappearance of the starting material. The mixture was cooled and filtered through a pad of celite. The filtrate, was washed twice with aqueous 10% NaOH and the organic phase was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated at reduced pressure. The residue was purified by crystallization (light petroleum/ether) to afford **2** as a white solid (476 mg,75%).

M.p. 66-68 °C.

TLC (AcOEt/light petroleum 7:3) Rf 0.37.

IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1730, 1550, 1380, 1330, 1300, 1270, 1130, 1090, 1000, 840, 760, 750.

<sup>1</sup>HNMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) d: 7.40 (s, 1H, CH); 4.29 (s, 3H, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.96 (s, 3H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>).

Anal. calc. for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (185.14): C 38.93, H 3.81, N 22.70; found: C 38.71, H 3.89, N 22.89.

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Sample availability: Available from the authors.

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